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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Stephen Douglas Barrett, et al.

EXAMINER : Shengjun Wang

SERIAL NO. : 10/031,149

ART UNIT : 1617

FILED.

: June 3, 2002

PAPER NO. :

FOR

: Method for Treating Chronic Pain Using MEK Inhibitors

Response to Restriction Requirement Under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 3, 2003 in which Restriction was required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

Under PCT Rule 13.1 and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, Applicants were required to elect a single invention of the following inventions:

Group I, claim(s) 1-31, drawn to a method of treating pain by using the compounds with formula (I), wherein the W is tetraazole (formulae viii and xvii).

Group II, claim(s) 1-31, drawn to a method of treating pain by using the compounds with formula (I), wherein the W is triazole (formulae ix, x, xi, and part of i).

Group III, claim(s) 1-31, drawn to a method of treating pain by using the compounds with formula (I), wherein the W is diazole (formulae ii, iii, part of iv, xii, xiii, xiv).

Group IV, claim(s) 1-31, drawn to a method of treating pain by using the compounds with formula (I), wherein the W is oxazole (formulae v, vi, and part of iv, xii, xiii).

Group V, claim(s) 1-31, drawn to a method of treating pain by using the compounds with formula (I), wherein the W is thiazole (part of formulae iv, xii, xiii, xiv).

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Group VI, claim(s) 31-32, drawn to a method of treating pain by using the compounds with formula (I), wherein the W is not a heterocyclic moiety.

Group VII, claim(s) 1-31, drawn to a method of treating pain by using the compounds with formula (I), wherein the W is a heterocyclic moiety other than those defined in groups I-V.

The Applicants hereby elect Group VII for prosecution on the merits, without traverse.

The Applicants have also been required to elect a single species to which the claim shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The Applicants hereby elect the species (2,3-Difluoro-6-[1,3,4]oxadiazol-2-yl-phenyl)-(4-iodo-2-methyl-phenyl)-amine. Claims 1-9, 11, 14, 20, 23, and 32 are readable on the elected species.

Finally, the Applicants respectfully reserve the right to file a Divisional application(s) to the non-elected claims.

The Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 24, 2003

Suzaane M. Harvey

Registration No. 42,640

Warner-Lambert Company

2800 Plymouth Road

Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Telephone: (734) 622-2658 Facsimile: (734) 622-1553

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		Group Art Unit			
		Examiner Name		Shengjun Wang	
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Fee Attached Fee Attached Amendment / Response After Final Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ tncomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	Drawing Licensi Petition Petition Provisic Power Change Addres Termin Small I Reque	ng-related Papers Routing Slip (PTO/SB/6 companying Patition in to Convert to a conal Application of Attorney, Revocation a of Correspondence sail Disclaimer Entity Statement	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	to Group Appeal Communication to Boar of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Grou (Appeal Natice, Brief, Repy Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Additional Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8	
SIGNATUR	RE OF APPL	ICANT, ATTORNEY,	OR AGE	NT	
Firm or Individual name Suzanne M. Harves	711 8	Januy_			
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PTO/SB/17 (01-03)

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